

NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE
PO Box 1809, Las Cruces, NM 88004
Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION
WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 22, 2017

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Mild, mostly dry weather afforded producers ample time to harvest hay and row crops, as well as move livestock to their winter pastures, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The number of days suitable for fieldwork increased to 6.9, compared with 5.6 days last week, 6.8 days last year, and a 5-year average of 6.5 days. Reports from Santa Fe and Torrance Counties indicated that 100 percent of the pinto bean acreage and 85 percent of the pumpkin acreage in the area was harvested. Additionally, hay producers in many locations in the northwest were struggling to get the last of their fields harvested due to wet soils, shorter days, and a lack of heat needed to cure the crop. Statewide, topsoil moisture levels were reported as 80 percent adequate to surplus, compared with 80 percent last week, 30 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 36 percent. Cloudcroft, at 0.85 inch, noted the largest accumulation during the week. Average temperatures ranged from 9 degrees below to 5 degrees above normal. Daytime highs varied from 65 degrees at Angel Fire and Cloudcroft to 88 degrees at Artesia and Hachita. Overnight lows ranged from 11 degrees at Angel Fire to 48 degrees at NMSU and Santa Teresa. Statewide, pasture and range condition was reported as 45 percent good to excellent, compared with 48 percent last week, 33 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 26 percent. Comments from several areas suggested that pastures were in significantly better condition this year thanks to a substantial increase in precipitation throughout the year; however, there were some reports of increased weed pressure in the northwest that was attributed to the increase in moisture and the reduction of quality grass stands. In Union County, corn harvest was in full swing, as producers were having to check the crop for a fungus that was reported in the Oklahoma and Texas Panhandles. Cotton yields in Dona Ana County were reportedly lower than normal due to damage from the heavy rainfall received during July, August, and September. Statewide, pecan nut set was reported as 25 percent heavy, 69 percent moderate, and 6 percent light, compared with 22 percent heavy, 70 percent moderate, and 8 percent light last week. Hail damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent severe, 2 percent moderate, and 1 percent light, compared with 1 percent severe, 1 percent moderate, and 1 percent light last week. Wind damage in all crops was reported as 1 percent severe, 1 percent moderate, and 5 percent light, compared with 2 percent severe, 2 percent moderate, and 5 percent light last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 3 percent very short, 14 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus, compared with 4 percent very short, 14 percent short, 78 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus last week.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
5 th cutting harvested.....	92	90	100	99
6 th cutting harvested.....	75	51	59	70
Chile				
Red harvested	61	50	48	35
Corn				
Dented	96	94	94	98
Mature	81	75	79	82
Harvested for grain	25	10	14	21
Corn harvested for silage.....	98	93	89	94
Cotton				
Bolls opening	93	85	81	88
Harvested.....	13	6	19	14
Peanuts				
Harvested.....	14	8	54	46
Sorghum				
Coloring	95	93	99	94
Mature	77	61	61	54
Harvested for grain.....	13	6	2	6
Winter wheat				
Emerged	89	80	90	81
Livestock receiving supplemental feed				
Cattle and calves.....	41	30	52	NA
Sheep and lambs.....	45	45	51	NA

NA – not available
(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.9	5.6	6.8	6.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	2	3	11	26
Short	18	17	59	38
Adequate	73	69	29	34
Surplus	7	11	1	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	1	1	9	NA
Short	23	17	34	NA
Adequate	75	81	56	NA
Surplus	1	1	1	NA

NA – not available
(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, AND PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION				
	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn				
Very poor.....	2	1	2	2
Poor.....	3	2	2	4
Fair.....	25	26	28	25
Good	48	56	48	51
Excellent	22	15	20	18
Cotton				
Very poor.....	3	4	1	2
Poor.....	6	7	27	16
Fair.....	42	50	35	35
Good	43	35	31	34
Excellent	6	4	6	13
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	4	3	3	18
Poor.....	19	17	20	22
Fair.....	32	32	44	34
Good	39	41	28	21
Excellent	6	7	5	5
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	6
Poor.....	7	5	6	23
Fair.....	68	73	59	56
Good	25	22	35	15
Excellent	--	--	--	--
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	--	--	1	1
Fair.....	1	2	9	20
Good	73	74	42	51
Excellent	26	24	48	28
Sorghum				
Very poor.....	1	--	--	NA
Poor.....	--	3	4	NA
Fair.....	54	46	73	NA
Good	37	40	22	NA
Excellent	8	11	1	NA
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	3	1	--	NA
Poor.....	4	7	25	NA
Fair.....	22	18	34	NA
Good	55	53	27	NA
Excellent	16	21	14	NA
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	1	2	2	NA
Poor.....	3	2	4	NA
Fair.....	21	23	34	NA
Good	65	63	53	NA
Excellent	10	10	7	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	12	19	12	NA
Poor.....	13	20	12	NA
Fair.....	15	6	16	NA
Good	53	51	52	NA
Excellent.....	7	4	8	NA

NA – not available
 (--) – zero

New Mexico’s weather data can be accessed at the following:
http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/New_Mexico/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2017/NM_Weather_10222017.pdf